

## **II      AMENDMENT**

### **In the Claims:**

Please amend claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 19, 20, 21 and 43 as set forth below in a listing of all of the claims in the Application with an identification of the current status of each claim in the Application.

- Claim 1.            (currently amended) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of
- applying a non-toxic composition to the wood
- wherein said composition consists essentially of benzyl alcohol and tannic acid.
- Claim 2.            (currently amended) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a non-toxic composition to the wood, wherein the composition consists essentially of benzyl alcohol, tannic acid and essential oils.
- Claim 3.            (previously presented) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a composition to the wood, wherein said composition consists essentially of benzyl alcohol, tannic acid and glycerol.
- Claim 4.            (previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein said composition comprises less than 50% by weight of benzyl alcohol.
- Claim 5.            (currently amended) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a non-toxic composition to the wood, wherein said composition consists essentially of propylene glycol and tannic acid.

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- Claim 6. (currently amended) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a non-toxic composition to the wood, wherein said composition consists essentially of benzyl alcohol, tannic acid and tannin.
- Claim 7. (previously presented) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a composition to the wood, wherein said composition consists essentially of benzyl alcohol, propyl alcohol (a), tannin (b) and tannic acid (c).
- Claim 8. (previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein said composition consists essentially of:  
from 0.1 to 99% by weight of benzyl alcohol;  
from 0.01 to 25% by weight of tannin; and  
from 0.01 to 70% by weight of tannic acid.
- Claim 9. (currently amended) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a non-toxic composition to the wood, wherein said composition comprises benzyl alcohol, propylene glycol, tannin and tannic acid.
- Claim 10. (currently amended) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a non-toxic composition to the wood, wherein said composition comprises:  
(a1) benzyl alcohol;  
(a2) propylene glycol; and  
(b) tannin.
- Claim 11. (cancelled)
- Claim 12. (currently amended) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a non-toxic composition to the wood, wherein

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said composition consists essentially of benzyl alcohol, tannic acid, tannin and lactic acid.

Claim 13. (currently amended) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a non-toxic composition to the wood, wherein said composition comprises benzyl alcohol, tannic acid, propylene glycol, tannin and essential oils.

Claims 14–18 (cancelled)

Claim 19. (currently amended) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a non-toxic composition to the wood, wherein said composition comprises from 0.1 to 98% by weight of benzyl alcohol and from 0.01 to 25% by weight of tannin.

Claim 20. (currently amended) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a non-toxic composition to the wood, wherein said composition comprises:

- (i) benzyl alcohol;
- (ii) propylene glycol and
- (iii) tannic acid.

Claim 21. (currently amended) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a non-toxic composition to the wood, wherein said composition comprises benzyl alcohol, propylene glycol, tannic acid and essential oils.

Claims 22–23. (cancelled)

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Claim 24. (previously presented) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a composition to the wood wherein said composition consists essentially of benzyl alcohol, tannic acid, propylene glycol, lactic acid and cinnamyl alcohol.

Claims 25–29 (cancelled)

Claim 30. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said composition consists essentially of:  
from 0.01 to 99% by weight of benzyl alcohol and  
from 0.01 to 50% by weight of tannic acid.

Claims 31–35. (cancelled)

Claim 36. (previously presented) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a composition to the wood, wherein said composition comprises:  
from 0.1 to 99% by weight of benzyl alcohol;  
from 0.01 to 99.8% by weight of propylene glycol;  
from 0.01 to 25% by weight of tannin; and  
from 0.01 to 70% by weight of tannic acid.

Claims 37–42. (cancelled)

Claim 43. (currently amended) A method for the impregnation and treatment of wood comprising the step of applying a non-toxic composition to the wood, wherein said composition comprises from 20 to 98% by weight of benzyl alcohol and from 0.01 to 10% by weight of tannin.

Claims 44–45. (cancelled)

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- Claim 46. (previously presented) The method of treatment of wood comprising the step of applying the composition as defined in claim 1 by spraying.
- Claim 47. (previously presented) A method of treatment of wood comprising the step of applying the composition as defined in claim 5 by spraying.
- Claim 48. (previously presented) A method of treatment of wood comprising the step of incorporating the composition as defined in claim 20 by spraying.